

REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH
OF THE
BOROUGH OF SUTTON COLDFIELD,
FOR THE YEAR 1897.

BY

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

BIRMINGHAM :

1898.



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BOROUGH OF SUTTON COLDFIELD,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S OFFICE,

February 21st, 1898.

To the Health and Highways Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT on the Sanitary condition of the Borough, and in order to render comparison with previous Reports as easy as possible, I shall adopt the same general arrangement and tabular forms.

AREA.

This is the same as last year, viz., 13,030 acres ; and as there has been no alteration in Ward boundaries, the area is sub-divided as follows :—Boldmere Ward, 1,051 acres ; Hill, 2,907 ; Maney, 848 ; Trinity, 3,223 ; Walmley, 4,242 ; Wylde Green, 759.

POPULATION.

I estimate the population to the middle of 1897 to have been 11,641, but as I have several times pointed out, except in census years, the estimation of the population must be open to considerable error. It is impossible in a town like Sutton to make any calculation of population from previous increases, and the only method likely to give a fairly accurate result is to discover the number of inhabited houses in the

year and multiply these by the average number of persons found in each house at the last census. This I have done. It will be seen that by this method, the increase of population appears very large, but looking at the altered aspect of the town, *i.e.* altered by the continual growth of new houses, it is to be expected that the population is a rapidly increasing one.

The following table shows the population divided among the six Wards :—

WARDS.					Area in Acres.	Population.
Boldmere Ward	...	...	...	...	1,051	2,313
Hill Ward	...	...	...	...	2,907	2,055
Maney Ward	...	...	...	...	848	2,509
Trinity Ward	...	...	...	...	3,223	2,227
Walmley Ward	...	...	...	...	4,242	1,108
Wylde Green Ward	...	...	...	...	759	1,429
					13,030	11,641

BIRTHS.

223 births have been registered during the year—99 males and 124 females. This is 12 more than last year. Calculated on the estimated population the birth-rate is 19·15 per 1000, as compared with 19·53 for last year. This is again considerably below the average of the country at large, and of the other towns and districts in the county of Warwick; the rate in which for 1896 (the last year for which statistics are as yet available) was 28·54.

Ten births were registered as illegitimate, compared with seven in 1896 and six in 1895.

I regret to state that this is the largest number of illegitimate births I have ever recorded in a year.

DEATHS.

During the year 126 deaths, 68 males and 58 females have been registered in the Borough, compared with 141 in 1896, and 114 in 1895. Nine deaths occurred in the Work-house in paupers removed from the Town, so it is necessary to add these to those registered in the Borough to correctly represent the year's mortality. Calculated on the estimated population, the death rate is 11·59 per 1000, which is not only considerably lower than in 1896, but is nearly 1·5 per 1000 below the average of the last ten years.

The following table shows the Birth, Death, and Zymotic Rates for the past ten years :—

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Birth-Rate	23·34	23·07	21·27	25·25	21·22	24·28	20·00	19·90	19·53	19·15
Death-Rate	10·78	11·31	11·94	18·60	13·4	15·7	11·50	11·04	13·50	11·59
ZymoticDeathRate	1·11	0·87	0·73	2·59	0·22	2·19	0·6	0·57	2·35	0·77

This table shows us that the birth rate has still fallen lower, and indeed is the lowest yet recorded.

The death rate is considerably below normal, while the zymotic death rate is only one-third of that of 1896. It will be remembered that the mortality was then increased by epidemics of Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough, while in 1897 the only zymotic disease unduly prevalent was Diarrhoea. The mortality from Phthisis was only three-fifths of that of the previous year.

In the following table are shown the Birth, Death, and Zymotic Rates for the separate Wards of the Borough :—

WARDS.	Population.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.
Boldmere	2,313	18·59	12·53	2·1
Hill	2,055	20·43	10·73	nil
Maney.....	2,509	23·91	8·76	0·3
Trinity	2,227	14·36	12·57	0·4
Walmley.....	1,108	18·05	11·73	nil
Wylde Green... .	1,429	18·89	7·69	1·3

These figures show the birth rate to have been highest in Maney and lowest in Trinity Ward, as is usual.

The general death rate was lowest in Wylde Green and highest in Boldmere and Trinity, though in each of these it only slightly exceeded the average of the Borough. In both Hill and Walmley Wards the zymotic death rate was nil.

Of the 126 deaths, 22 were in children under one year of age, and 8 in children between one and five as compared with 26 and 15 respectively in the previous year.

The following table shows at a glance the rates of infant mortality :—

Annual Rate of Mortality.	Percentage of Deaths of Infants under One Year to Total Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths of Children under Five Years to Total Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths of Infants under One Year to Registered Births.
11·59	17·03	22·9	10·3

I am glad to be able to record a considerable fall in infant mortality, as the figures shown in the above table are very satisfactory, indeed they are markedly below those for the Urban or Rural Districts in the County of Warwick for the year 1896. The causes of death were as follows:— Diarrhoea 4, Tuberculosis 1, Bronchitis and Pneumonia 3, Marasmus 1, Immaturity 1, Inanition 3, Injuries 1, Atrophy 2, Convulsions 1, Premature Birth 1, Dentition 1, Rickets 1, Dyspepsia 1, and Suppuration of Umbilicus 1.

The next table shows the distribution of births and deaths in each quarter:—

1897.	Births.	Birth Rate.	Deaths.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Date.
1st Quarter	48	16·49	27	9·27	nil
2nd „	60	20·60	40	13·72	0·32
3rd „	50	17·16	39	13·40	1·00
4th „	65	22·32	29	9·96	0·68

It will be seen that the birth rate was lowest in the first quarter, as was also the general death rate.

The death rate was highest in the second quarter, and lowest in the first quarter, while the zymotic death rate was highest in the third quarter, due to Diarrhoea entirely, as there was no mortality from any other zymotic disease.

No less than 36·5 per cent. of all the mortality occurred in persons aged 65 and upwards. This is a very satisfactory figure and compares favourably with that of the two previous years, which was 28·8.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Nine deaths have been registered from the seven principal zymotic diseases, viz.: Typhoid Fever 1, Diphtheria 1,

and Diarrhœa 7. This compares very favourably with the figures for last year, when there were no less than 26. The figures are even more satisfactory than they at first sight appear, when we consider that all the deaths but two were due to Diarrhœa, which is caused chiefly by weather conditions.

EPIDEMICS.

The only disease epidemic during the year was Measles, and this chiefly in Boldmere and Hill Wards. In 1896, when Measles was also prevalent, it chiefly occurred in Walmley Ward.

SMALL POX.

Not a single case of this disease occurred during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

Not a death from Scarlet Fever has been registered, and only 35 cases have been notified, compared with 98 in 1896. Of the 35 cases, 23 occurred in Maney Ward, while Walmley Ward was free throughout the year.

The cases at Maney were interesting and instructive. At the end of September a case of Scarlet Fever was reported in Duke Street, and on visiting the premises the Inspector was informed that another case existed which had admittedly been concealed. He reported the matter to me, and on investigation I found that such was the case. A special meeting of the Health Committee was called, and on the facts being laid before them prosecutions for non-notification and for exposure were authorized, and as a result the defendant was fined £4 and costs. It was proved at the hearing that the defendant concealed the fact of infection existing because he said he did not want the child to go to hospital; but as he sent him to school while desquamating

he infected no less than 19 other cases, directly and indirectly, 18 of which were sent to hospital—the cost of this to the Borough being about £180.

MEASLES.

For the second year Measles has been prevalent, the Wards affected being chiefly Boldmere and Hill. It has been of an exceptionally mild type up to now, as there has been no mortality. I have before pointed out that very little can be done in the way of prevention of this disease. First of all it affects chiefly very young children; secondly, it is infectious in the very early stages, before it can be recognised; and lastly, so many parents are imbued with the fatalistic idea that all children must have it, and that the sooner they have it the better, so that they take no care to prevent it spreading among them when one becomes infected.

WHOOPING COUGH.

No mortality was caused by this disease, nor did any cases come to my knowledge. This is not surprising when we consider that it was very prevalent in 1896, no less than 9 deaths being registered in that year from it. As whooping cough chiefly attacks infants and very young children, it generally becomes epidemic about every two years, as more children are born and become susceptible.

DIPHTHERIA.

Six cases of Diphtheria, compared with 18 in 1896, were notified, of which only 1 proved fatal. All the cases occurred in Wylde Green Ward. In one instance, viz., Laburnum Terrace, the premises were defective, and they have since been put into good sanitary repair. In another case, the affected child had been playing near a deep ashpit privy, and this is in process of being converted into a water closet. In another case I found the house to be excessively damp, and efforts are to be made to remedy this by fixing a damp course,

which, owing to the house being an old one, was not originally put in.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Only 2 cases have occurred, and both of these were imported—1 from Handsworth, and 1 from London. This is a very satisfactory record, as Typhoid Fever, more than any other disease, may be taken as the index of the sanitary condition of a district.

DIARRHŒA.

Seven deaths occurred from this disease, of which no less than six occurred in the third quarter of the year. I have before pointed out that diarrhœa is chiefly dependent on meteorological conditions, and although the mortality in Sutton from this disease appears large, it was relatively trivial compared with that experienced in Birmingham and other large towns.

INFLUENZA.

Two deaths were registered from Influenza, but as there was no excessive mortality from diseases of the respiratory organs, I am of opinion that it was not unduly prevalent during the year. I am glad also to note a diminished mortality from Phthisis, only six cases proving fatal.

SANITARY CONDITION AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

At the close of the year, the health of the Borough was generally very satisfactory. There were a few cases of Measles, but there were no cases of Typhoid Fever, Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever existing.

AN ACCOUNT OF ENQUIRIES MADE AS TO CONDITIONS INJURIOUS TO HEALTH, AND OF THE PROCEEDINGS ADVISED; ALSO, AN ACCOUNT OF THE SUPERVISION EXERCISED OVER PLACES AND HOUSES WHICH THE SANITARY AUTHORITY HAVE POWER TO REGULATE, WITH THE ACTION TAKEN IN REGARD TO OFFENSIVE TRADES.

In every case where infectious disease has been notified, or where a nuisance has been reported, the premises have been visited and any defects found have been remedied as far as circumstances permitted.

NOTIFICATION.

The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act has again worked well, owing to the excellent relations existing between the Medical Practitioners of the town and your Sanitary staff. The number of cases notified has been 199 compared with 246 in 1896. They were as follows:—

Scarlet Fever 35, Diphtheria 6, Typhoid Fever 2, Measles 153, and Erysipelas 3. The cost of this notification was £24. 17s. 6d., of which no less than £19. 2s. 6d. was caused by Measles. I have been very carefully considering the question of Measles notification during the year, and as a result and after conference with other Medical Officers of Health, who have also had experience in the matter, I have come to the conclusion that little, if any, benefit attaches to it. It is perfectly true that Measles is now the zymotic disease which causes the highest mortality in this country, but from the nature of it, it is a disease with which sanitary effort can do little. It, as I have before shown, affects children in the early years of life, it is infectious before it can be diagnosed and therefore tends to spread rapidly. We have no isolation hospital provided for it, nor do I think it likely that the experiment will be tried on any practical scale. In the first two or three years after the adoption of the Act, I was of opinion that notification of Measles enabled me to control outbreaks in some degree, but in a year or two we had collected so much inflammable material that nearly 600 cases occurred in six months, and on comparing the results obtained in Sutton with those in my other districts where Measles is not notifiable, I fail to find any practical advantage

in notification. Under these circumstances I suggest to you the advisability of taking the necessary steps to withdraw the notification of Measles.

ISOLATION.

Twenty-eight cases, all Scarlet Fever, were removed to Hospital, compared with 57 in the previous year. It is to be noted that 80 per cent. of the cases of Scarlet Fever were isolated, a proportion higher than any I have previously recorded.

DISINFECTION.

The Inspector reports that he disinfected 35 houses, compared with 116 in 1896, and 44 in 1895.

Thirty loads of Bedding and Clothing were sent to the Aston Manor disinfecting station.

SCHOOLS.

Owing to the fact that there has been much less zymotic disease among children during the year, I have found it necessary to interfere but little with the Elementary Schools; indeed, with the exception of the Hill Infant School, I did not find it necessary to close any of the Schools in the Borough, and in this case I only found it desirable to ante-date by a few days the usual Summer holidays.

SEWAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The Borough Surveyor (Mr. Marston) has sent me the following in reference to new sewers and drains laid during the year:—

“A new sewer was constructed at the back of houses on the Parade, which were found to be inefficiently drained, and a contract has been let for the sewerage of Penns Lane and a portion of the Birmingham Road. Preparations are also being made for extensions of sewers in various parts of the Borough rendered necessary by the large increase in the number of new buildings erected.

“The number of new connections with the public sewers was 99, by means of which 141 houses and buildings and about 163 water closets have been drained.”

As regards the removal of nightsoil and household refuse, arrangements have been made that corporation men shall undertake the work at fixed rates, and during the year the emptying of 4 privies and 56 ashpits has been carried out.

WATER SUPPLY.

I have analysed 34 samples of water, of which two were taken from the mains of the South Staffordshire Co. supplying the town. Both these were of good quality. Of the 32 samples taken from private wells, only four were of good quality; the others were all polluted with sewage, some to a very large extent, and were, in my opinion, unfit for use for drinking purposes.

Mr. Marston informs me that the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company's mains have been extended through the village of Little Sutton, the Council agreeing to subsidise the Company until such time as the water rates from the houses supplied will make up a fair return on the outlay. Arrangements have also been made for the extension of the Water Company's mains through Hill village on like terms. Other extensions have been made by the Company in various parts of the Borough to supply new houses which have been erected.

In connection with this subject, I am bound to say that in my judgment it should be compulsory on all Water Companies having powers to supply a district to extend their mains as the increased building of houses requires, without any guarantee of payment by the Sanitary Authority. There is no doubt that in many cases it would be less expensive for the Authority to supply new districts themselves, rather than make terms with the Company to do so, but as the Companies have legal rights of supply, it is only reasonable that, in the public interest, they should also have the obligation

of supplying the requirements of the people, even if for a time it could not be done at a rate which would satisfactorily re-imburse them for the outlay.

OVERCROWDING.

The Inspector reports 2 cases of overcrowding, one at Whitehouse Common and the other at Wood End. Both were abated on notice without legal proceedings.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The Inspector has regularly inspected the 6 Slaughter Houses in use in the town, and has made no less than 75 visits, but in no instance has he found it necessary to call my attention to sanitary defects in structure, or to improper use of the premises.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

My attention was called to the establishment of a tripe boiling business in Queen Street, and as the premises were unsuitable, the tenant was informed that no sanction could be given to it and the business must be discontinued. This was done.

I also had my attention called to the fact that the boiling of offal was carried on in connection with some of the slaughter houses, and in consequence of representations made that this was in reality an offensive trade within the meaning of the Act, the occupiers have discontinued the practice.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The Inspector reports having made 40 visits to dairies, cowsheds, and milk shops, and finding them generally in a satisfactory condition.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

Forty-one samples of Food were submitted by the

Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, but only one, a sample of milk proved to be adulterated, and this with five per cent. of added water. The vendor was summoned before the Committee and cautioned.

NEW BUILDINGS.

Mr. Marston, the Borough Surveyor, has sent me the following in reference to these :—

“During the year 1897, plans were approved for the erection of 252 new houses, 1 public building (Assembly Room), 8 retail shops, and 37 alterations and additions to existing premises (including the Grammar School, Hill School and the Princess Alice Orphanage). The total number of new buildings approved was therefore 298, or 114 in excess of any previous year.”

The following Comparative Statement shows the number of plans approved each year since 1889, and the remarkable increase during the past year will be apparent from these figures :—

1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897
53	65	85	135	113	168	106	184	298

VACCINATION.

I am gratified to be able to report that Vaccination has been again well performed in the Borough, and great credit must be given to the Vaccination Officer for having achieved this result. It is the more satisfactory because in many neighbouring districts vaccination in the real and effective sense has almost ceased, and there can be no doubt that when, probably in the near future, Small Pox again becomes epidemic, that Sutton will discover how much it is indebted both to the Aston Guardians, who are the Vaccination Authority, and to their Officer.

METEOROLOGY.

It is with great regret that I find that the meteorological observations are not available for 1897. It is becoming more and more common for intending residents

at Health resorts to make enquiries as to the climatic and meteorological conditions obtaining, and looking at the competition for public favour now existing in similar towns, it seems to me that Sutton in its own interests should not neglect to put on record the necessary observations, particularly as the instruments for the purpose are in existence and available.

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

The usual tabular form of work done by the Inspector appears in table D in the appendix. The Inspector has performed his duties to my entire satisfaction, and has seconded my efforts to improve the condition of much of the smaller house property in the Borough, particularly as regards the substitution of sanitary conveniences for the old fashioned vault-privy, of which, I regret to say, too many are still in existence.

CONCLUSION.

I can heartily congratulate the Committee on the facts and statistics contained in this report. Not only is our death-rate largely below the average, but there has been comparatively little of those infectious diseases, which are amenable to sanitary effort, and if it had not been for the prevalence of diarrhoea in the autumn, I should have been able to record one of the lowest zymotic death rates ever experienced.

Again thanking you, Mr. Chairman, and the Members of the Committee for your continued courtesy,

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

A. BOSTOCK HILL, M.D., D.P.H. Camb.,
Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE **A.** — TABLE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1897, IN THE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF SUTTON COLDFIELD, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES AND AGES, AND SHOWING ALSO THE AREA AND POPULATION OF SUCH DISTRICT, AND THE BIRTHS THEREIN DURING THE YEAR, TOGETHER WITH BIRTH, DEATH, AND ZYMOTIC RATES, AND THE RATE OF INFANT MORTALITY.

DISTRICT IN WARDS.	Area in Acres.	Population per Square Mile.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Infant Mortality under 1 year to Registered Births per 1,000.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		REGISTERED BIRTHS.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES. AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS IN PERSONS UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																							
							Census 1891.	Esti- mated to middle of 1897.		At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Continued Fevers.				22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	41	
									Typhus															Enteric or Typhoid	Other or Doubtful.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.														
							2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11								19	20	21														
BOLDMERE WARD...	...	1,051	1,410	18·59	12·53	2·1	119	1,463	2,313	42	29	5	1	...	1	10	12	Under 5	4	2	
																	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	2	1	14	
HILL WARD...	...	2,907	452	20·43	10·70	nil	119	1,471	2,055	42	22	5	...	2	1	5	9	Under 5	1	4		
																	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	2	...	...	10
MANEY WARD...	...	848	1,900	23·91	8·76	0·3	33	1,916	2,509	60	22	2	4	...	1	7	8	Under 5	1	...	1	...	4		
																	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	12	
TRINITY WARD...	...	3,223	442	14·36	12·57	0·4	187	1,548	2,227	32	28	6	11	11	Under 5	4	6	6		
																	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6	...	...	11
WALMLEY WARD...	...	4,242	167	18·05	11·73	nil	100	1,031	1,108	20	13	2	2	5	4	Under 5	1	3		
																	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	5
WYLDE GREEN WARD...	...	759	1,202	18·89	7·69	1·3	74	1,257	1,429	27	11	2	1	...	1	5	2	Under 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
																	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	3	1	...	...	2
PRINCESS ALICE ORPHANAGE	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
																	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
THE SANATORIUM...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1			
TOTALS	...	13,030	572	19·15	11·59	0·7	103	8,686	11,641	223	126	22	8	2	4	44	46	Under 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	1	20
																	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	6	11	15	3	55
THE SUBJOINED NUMBERS HAVE ALSO TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN JUDGING OF THE ABOVE RECORDS OF MORTALITY.																																								
Deaths occurring outside the District among persons belonging thereto							...	...	...	9	1	..	...	...	4	4	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
																	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	5	
Deaths occurring within the District among persons not belonging thereto							..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
																		5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TABLE B.—TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, DURING THE YEAR 1897, IN THE SUTTON COLDFIELD URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

WARDS.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.												
	Census, 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1897.			Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	
									Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued	Relapsing.	Puerperal.									Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued	Relapsing.	Puerperal.				
	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
BOLDMERE WARD...	1,463	2 313	42	Under 5	...	3	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	2	18	...	...	1	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
HILL WARD ...	1,471	2,055	42	Under 5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	...	...	3	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
MANEY WARD ...	1,916	2,509	60	Under 5	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	2	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TRINITY WARD ...	1,548	2,227	32	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
WALMLEY WARD ...	1,031	1,108	20	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
WYLDE GREEN WARD ...	1,257	1,429	27	Under 5	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds	...	1	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	16	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PRINCESS ALICE {	...	...	...	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
ORPHANAGE }	...	...	...	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
THE SANATORIUM...	...	...	...	5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	8,686	11,641	223	Under 5	...	18	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	...	17	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	97	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District. Yes. Since when? January, 1890. Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated. Aston Manor Joint Hospital, in Perry Barr Urban District.

TABLE C.

WATER: RESULTS OF ANALYSIS, EXPRESSED IN PARTS PER 100,000.

No. of Water.	Locality.	Date.	Total solid Matter.	Ammonia free.	Ammonia Organic.	Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites.	Chlorine.	REMARKS.
1	Minworth Greaves ...	2nd Feb.	130.0	0	.005	trace	30.2	Taken by order of General
2	"	"	136.0	.020	.060	1.32	28.3	" [Pur. Com.
3	"	"	114.0	.024	.040	4.07	8.8	"
4	"	"	108.0	.004	.032	3.52	7.7	"
5	"	"	116.0	.002	.014	3.85	12.0	"
6	"	"	50.0	.002	.005	0.33	2.3	"
7	Walmley Ash	9th "	56.0	.001	.016	1.76	8.1	"
8	"	"	190.0	.002	.040	8.80	23.9	"
9	"	"	70.0	.007	.040	1.65	2.7	"
10	"	"	162.0	.002	.028	5.83	13.4	"
11	"	"	148.0	.016	.056	6.49	13.2	"
12	"	"	124.0	.005	.021	4.95	14.6	"
13	Emily Cottages, Walmley	"	174.0	.015	.032	6.49	17.4	"
14	Yew Tree House	"	132.0	.014	.044	3.85	2.7	"
15	"	"	58.0	.012	.024	0.99	2.6	"
16	"	"	82.0	.010	.024	1.98	7.0	"
17	Peddimore Hall Cottages	"	102.0	.002	.008	2.42	7.6	"
18	Hurst Green Farm, Walmley	"	76.0	.003	.008	0.44	11.5	"
19	Minworth Greaves ...	"	218.0	.001	.008	2.31	44.3	"
20	Wharf, Wiggins Hill	"	102.0	.050	.008	2.31	11.3	"
21	Rymonds Farm, Wiggins Hill	"	90.0	.002	.008	1.54	7.0	"
22	"	"	72.0	.006	.026	1.32	5.2	"
23	Wiggins Hill	"	66.0	.003	.008	trace	3.0	"
24	Jockey Road, Boldmere	25th Feb.	36.0	.001	.005	1.32	2.9	Taken by order of Health
25	Hill Village ...	12th July	40.0	.004	.008	0.77	2.0	[Committee
26	"	"	80.0	.006	.018	3.08	8.0	"
27	"	"	80.0	.005	.018	2.97	8.50	"
28	"	"	82.0	.006	.026	3.63	6.50	"
29	"	"	40.0	.003	.015	0.44	4.50	"
30	"	"	84.0	.001	.018	3.08	7.60	"
31	Duke Street ...	18th Oct.	36.0	.001	.008	0.33	2.00	Complaint made to Inspector
32	The Town Hall	25th Oct.	24.0	.000	.005	0.22	1.80	S. Staffordshire Tap Water
33	Walmley ...	"	38.0	.003	.010	1.10	2.80	Taken by order of Health Com.
34	The Parade ...	28th Dec.	24.0	.000	.005	0.30	1.7	S. Staffordshire Tap Water

TABLE **D.**
SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN
THE INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES DEPARTMENT
DURING THE YEAR 1897.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK PERFORMED.				Inspections and Observations made	Formal Notices by Authority.	Nuisances abated after Notice.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	{	Foul Conditions	...	8	4	4	
		Structural Defects	...	22	11	11	
		Overcrowding	...	4	2	2	
		Unfit for Habitation	...	...	...	...
	Lodging Houses			...	...	...
	Dairies and Milkshops...			15	...	...
	Cow Sheds			25	...	...
	Bakehouses			26	...	...
	Slaughter-houses			75	...	...
	Canal Boats			...	...	...
House Drainage	Ashpits and Privies			250	60	60	
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure			20	6	6	
	Water Closets			20	10	10	
	{	Defective Traps	...	6	3	3	
		No Disconnection	...	4	2	2	
		Other Faults	...	53	25	25	
	Water Supply			10	3	3	
	Pigstyes			18	6	6	
	Animals improperly kept			6	3	3	
	Offensive Trades			2	1	1	
	Smoke Nuisances			12	...	...
	Other Nuisances			10	5	5	
	Totals				586	141	141

TABLE **D**—Continued.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK PERFORMED.						Nos.
Seizures of unwholesome Food	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	41
„ „ found Adulterated	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	34
„ „ condemned as unfit for use	...	...	...	...	...	28
NOTE.—Where an inspection or notice embraces more than one defect, it may be enumerated separately as regards each such defect.						
PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.						
Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	30
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	35
Schools	„	„	„	„	...	...
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	1
Convictions	„	„	„	„	„	1
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things	„	„	„	„	„	1
Convictions	„	„	„	„	„	1

F. MERRIFIELD,

Inspector of Nuisances.

TABLE E.

PROCEEDINGS TAKEN UNDER THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS
ACTS, 1875-9.

DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLES TAKEN FOR ANALYSIS DURING THE YEAR.

No.	DATE.	ARTICLE.	REMARKS.
1	22nd Jan.	Milk.....	Genuine.
2	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
3	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
4	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
5	16th Feb.	Milk.....	Genuine.
6	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
7	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
8	15th Mar.	Milk.....	Genuine.
9	" "	Butter.....	Genuine.
10	" "	Butter.....	Genuine.
11	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
12	20th Apl.	Milk.....	Genuine.
13	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
14	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
15	10th May	Honey.....	Genuine.
16	" "	Coffee.....	Genuine.
17	" "	Sweet Spirits Nitre ..	Genuine.
18	17th June	Coffee.....	Genuine.
19	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
20	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
21	12th July	Milk.....	Genuine.
22	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
23	" "	Coffee.....	Genuine.
24	17th Aug.	Milk.....	Genuine.
25	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
26	" "	Pepper.....	Genuine.
27	20th Sep.	Coffee.....	Genuine.
28	" "	Pepper.....	Genuine.
29	" "	Butter.....	Genuine.
30	17th Oct.	Milk.....	Genuine.
31	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
32	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
33	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
34	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
35	14th Nov.	Milk.....	Adulterated 5 % of added water. Cautioned by Committee.
36	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
37	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
38	16th Dec.	Milk.....	Genuine.
39	" "	Milk.....	Genuine.
40	" "	Vinegar	Genuine.
41	" "	Coffee	Genuine.

TABLE F.

SUTTON COLDFIELD SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Return, showing the number of Births Registered, together with the number of such cases successfully Vaccinated or otherwise disposed of in the above District during the year ending 31st Dec., 1897.

Vaccination Districts.	No. of Births Registered during the year ending 31st Dec, 1897.	No. of these cases successfully Vaccinated.	Insusceptible of Vaccination.	Died before Vaccination.	Cases under Postponement.	Removals to other Districts out of the Union.	No. of Cases not to be found.	No. of Cases remaining Unvaccinated at date of this return.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Sutton Coldfield Borough	223	156	—	12	17	—	3	35

NOTE.—As the Public Vaccination for Sutton Coldfield is performed only in January, April, July, and October in each year, 27 of the cases in column 9 had not attained the age for vaccination at the time appointed in January, 1898.

Aston Union Offices, Vauxhall, Birmingham,
4th February, 1898.

J. J. STEPHENS,
Vaccination Officer
for Aston Union.

TABLE G.

SHewing STREETS IN THE BOROUGH IN WHICH CASES OF
INFECTIOUS DISEASE HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED.

WARD AND STREET.	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Croup.
BOLDMERE—							
Boldmere Road	22	...	...	...	1	...
Chester Road	9	1	...	...	1	...
Highbridge Road	1	1	...	...	...	...
Western Road	1	...	...	...	...
Jockey Road	1	2	...	...	...	...
Sheffield Lane	5	...	...	...	...	...
Court Lane	2	...	...	...	...	...
HILL—							
Roughley	13	...	...	...	...	...
Slade Lane	3	...	...	...	...	...
Long Lane	5	...	...	...	...	...
Four Oaks	13	...	...	...	...	...
Hill Village	11	...	...	...	...	...
Little Sutton	8	...	...	...	...	...
Back Lane	2	...	...	...	...	...
Hill Wood	8	...	...	...	...	...
Clarence Road	9	...	...	...	...	...
Ley Hill	3	...	...	...	...	...
Church Lane	3	4	...	...	...	...
Bell Lane	1	...	...	...	...	...
MANEY—							
Holland Street	1	3	...	...	...	...
Queen Street	5	...	...	...	...
Parade	2	1	...	...	...	...
Manor Hill	1	...	...	...	...	...
Clifton Road	2	...	...	...	...	...
Duke Street	11	...	...	...	...

TABLE **G**—Continued.

WARD AND STREET.	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Croup.
MANEY—Continued—							
Holland Road	1	...	...	...	...
Farthing Lane	1	...	...	...	...
Lower Parade	1	...	...	...	...
Birmingham Road	1	...	...	...	...	...
TRINITY—							
Whitehouse Common	1	...	...	...	...
Church Hill	1	...	...	...	...	...
WALMLEY—							
Walmley Ash	1	...	...	...	...	...
Walmley Village	2	...	...	...	...	...
Wiggins Hill	1	...	...	...	...	...
WYLDE GREEN—							
Birmingham Road	5	1	4	...	1	...
Eastern Road
Penns Lane	5	1	...	...	...	...
Vesey Road	4	...	1	...	...	...
Highbridge Road	2	...	...	2	...	...
Green Lanes	6	...	1	...	...	...